

Professors' meeting 06.05.22

Present: Andreas Sch., Ben, Christof, Cristina, Ben, Fabian, Florencia, Gino, Johan, Jürg, Katharina, Laura, Lea, Marc, Massimiliano, Peter, Philippe, Prasenjit, Thomas Ge., Thomas Gr., Stefano

Excused: Andreas C., Adrian, Juerg, Nico

Agenda

1. Minutes of the meeting of 05.03.22
2. Teaching schedule FS23/HS24
3. UZH policy on air travel
4. Office space
5. Outreach
6. SPS Annual Meeting
7. Home Office
8. News from the Dean's Office
9. Varia

1) Minutes of the meeting of 05.03.22

- FB2: there was a first meeting between the management of the ICS and the Physics Department. ICS is working on an own master in theoretical astrophysics that might be ready for Autumn '23. Teaching duties of the PhD and Postdocs in FB2 were discussed.
- Emeritus Stiftung: 4 applications from physics and 2 from mathematics. In total an ordered list of 2 applications from physics and mathematics were submitted.

2) Teaching schedule FS23/HS24

Teaching schedule was discussed, no objections.

In the long term there will be discussion on the sharing of theory lectures with ETH and the contribution of ICS.

3) UZH policy on air travel

UZH sustainable-development goals are to reach climate neutrality by the year 2030. The largest single source of CO₂ is business related air travel. The objective by UZH for 2022 was to reduce to 60% of 2019 status, then further -3% annually

The data collected in 2019 is however not considered reliable enough on institute level and the 2022/23 monitoring will be used to data gathering. The monitoring includes all travels that paid for to at least 50% through UZH (including third-party funds) and paid visitors.

The CO₂ budget depends also on the airline, the plane and whether you take direct flights.

The MNF guidelines are as follows

- Reduce air travel as much as possible
- No business class
- Use the train for all destinations reachable within 6 hours

The group leaders are responsible for the implementation and make groups aware of the impact of selecting conferences, schools and travelling in general. Note that you get 1st class train tickets reimbursed for travelling outside the Kanton of Zurich.

Links: <https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Carbonoffset/Pages/default.aspx>

4) Office space

- Titus group moves to floor K, Ilaria Bivio and Peter Stoffer will get the offices in J floor.

- Theft in H floor: recently two laptops were stolen from a lab in H floor. Various options were discussed to improve safety in our institute (locking the front doors, electronic locks for labs, video camera, general awareness)

- The majority does not favour locking the front door
- Katharina will find out whether electronic locks could be installed for the labs and a video camera is allowed to be installed
- General awareness (mail to gr_all that we should be careful and lock the doors)

- Building 56: the requirements for each room were collected and simplified, currently the feasibility study is ongoing, this should take about 1-2 weeks. The time schedule to repair the roof this summer is very tight.

5) Outreach

Outreach team:

Izabela Bialo: social media: [twitter](#), [facebook](#), Instagram

Marc Huwiler: help with events (open day, scientifica, masterclass)
Prasenjit Saha: newsletter, welcome screen (new members)
Katharina: annual report, carousel, screen, coordination, [LinkedIn](#)
Use generic email outreach@physik.uzh.ch to inform regularly about news from your group

Inform Calista Fischer (c.fischer@mnf.uzh.ch) if you want to share news with MNF, she also helps with UZH communication and press releases, for visualisations you may get help from MELS.
(<https://www.zi.uzh.ch/en/teaching-and-research/media/visual-design.html>)

6) SPS Annual Meeting <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1119258/registrations/79794/>
Monday, June 27 there will be a dedicated session on SNSF funding for fundamental research with Bernd Gotsman, the head of SNSF Division II. Funding for physics was decreasing in recent years and the large fluctuations cause problems, particularly for large scale experiments. It is important to have good attendance to show that the community cares and is concerned about the fluctuations.
July 1st: Women in Science Career Symposium <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1119258/registrations/79795/>

7) Home Office

UZH home office rules are in place since May 1st <https://www.staff.uzh.ch/en/personal/working-models.html>

- employees (ATP and scientific personnel) have to be present at least 60%, mobile working is possible if it is compatible with the employees task, but it is not a right. Responsibility: group leaders.
- Employees who work remotely must be able to return to their on-site workplace at UZH within 24 hours.
- If regular remote work is agreed you need to make a contract (HR)

Following rules apply for professors (https://www.prof.uzh.ch/en/your_professorship/your_appointment/leaves/shortterm_absences.html)

- 60% presence during semester
- Absences: >10 working days **during the lecture period** must be authorized by the Executive Board of the University. The corresponding request must be submitted through official channels (**5 weeks in advance**).
- absences <= 10 working days during the lecture period do not require authorization, but must **always be reported** to the Dean in advance.
- during the lecture-free period must always be reported to the Dean in advance.
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8) News from the Dean's Office

Budget 2023 (1.2%+2.8%) cut some refunding bound to teaching. The implementation of the cuts will be discussed with the Dean in the next weeks. The refunding takes into account the teaching load of the PhDs and is meant to reduce this load. At the moment the teaching hours given to the Deans' office only include the teaching hours but not supervision of BSc and Master students or supervision of exams. KM will make a list of these additional hours for the discussion with the Dean.

PHD employment

The present UZH rule of 60% employment collides with SNF (80-100%) and also lead to problems with students in some cases. A change of the employment model for PhDs is foreseen for 2023. The suggestions from UZH are 1) 80% contract, 20% unpaid (classes, education), but the contract makes clear that 100% availability is required 2) 100% contract. The salary will not change. The two options were discussed and a unanimous decision was taken for option 1. The main reason is that this reflects best the educational part of the PhD and gives some flexibility to reward high teaching load.

The internal procedure of renewal of employment contracts for PhD students annually was discussed. It was decided to keep the annual renewal. In case of problems the PhD committee meeting needs to be scheduled well before the end of the contract, typically in month 9.

Guest professors

Reminder to send the application early to the Dean's office as the processing needs up to 6 months! A clear statement of what is covered is needed as anything we are paying counts as salary and is subject to taxes.

9)Varia

Please mark in your agenda:

- Spring dinner: May 20
- Institute plenary meeting: Monday 23.5., 15:00
- Institute assembly: Tuesday 24.5., 14:00
- Next Professors' meeting: Friday 3.6., 14:00
- Farewell Lecture+Apero Jürg Osterwalder: Friday 3.6., 16:00